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No Objection To Declassification in Full 2012/02/13 : LOC-HAK-256-2-31-1

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NEWS SUMMARY

FEBRUARY 15, 1973

(WEDNESDAY NETS, WIRES, COLS.)

GUEST EDITORIAL

"HONORED AND GRATEFUL"

"WE ARE HONORED TO HAVE HAD
THE OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE OUR
COUNTRY UNDER DIFFICULT CIRCUM-
STANCES. WE ARE PROFOUNDLY
GRATEFUL TO OUR COMMANDER-IN-
CHIEF AND TO OUR NATION FOR THIS
DAY. GOD BLESS AMERICA."

-CAPT. JEREMIAH A. DENTON JR.,
UNITED STATES NAVY, SPEAKING
FOR THE FIRST GROUP OF AMERI-
CAN PRISONERS OF WAR TO BE
RELEASED.

PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER, FEBRUARY 14, 1973

THE MAJOR STORIES OF THE DAY:

-- AS MORE POWS LEFT CLARK, ALL NETS HAD SPECIALS WED NITE
AS THE 1ST GROUP OF 28 POWS -- AND THE WELL-PUBLICIZED EX-
COMMUNIST DOG -- ARRIVED AT TRAVIS. AGAIN CAPT. DENTON SPOKE
FOR THE GROUP AS HE TOLD HOW "CALIF. HERE I COME" WAS THEIR
QUIETLY WHISTLED SIGNAL TO EACH OTHER IN PRISON WHENEVER THEY
FELT "PEACE W/HONOR" WAS NEARING. AND THO THEY KNEW THEY WERE
OFTEN "WHISTLING IN THE DARK, THANK GOD, NOW IT HAS COME TRUE."...
CBS LED ITS NEWS SHOW W/FILM FROM HAWAII AS DENTON EXPRESSED THE
GREAT FEELING THEY HAD. GALANTI ON NBC AS HE SAID, "GOD BLESS YOU,
MR. PRES." SAME FILM OF DENTON ON NBC. ALL NETS ALSO W/FILM FROM
CLARK WHERE 3 POWS, AGAIN W/DENTON LEADING THE WAY, VISITED GRADE
SCHOOL WHERE KIDS HAD PAINTED WELCOME HOME POSTERS AND SENT
VALENTINES TO THE RETURNEES. "GOD BLESS AMERICA" AND "FOR HE'S
A JOLLY GOOD FELLOW" WERE SUNK BY THE JOYFUL KIDS. IT WAS, AS
CBS SAID, CLEARLY A "PERSONAL AND EMOTIONAL VISIT" FOR THE MEN....
ABC W/PARTICULARLY MOVING FILM OF A 13-YEAR-OLD AT CLARK WHO'D
BEEN WEARING POW DAVIS' NAME ON VIVA BRACELET....ABC NOTED RN
SENT CORSAGE TO WIVES AS IT HAD FILM OF 1ST 2 ARRIVALS -- PERKINS
AND WOODS -- AND THEIR REMARKS. BRIEF CBS CLIP OF THOSE MEN.

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DURING CBS SPECIAL, RN'S SENDING OF FLOWER WAS NOTED.

-- NBC/ABC BOTH LED W/REPORTS FROM WH W/RZ CLIPS AS US-NVN JOINT ECON. COMMISSION TO OVERSEE AID RESULTED FROM HAK'S HANOI VISIT. RZ SHOWN AS HE PROMISED FULL CONSULTATION W/HILL. BOTH NETS NOTED #7B FIGURE W/#2-2 1/2B TO NVN HAS BEEN PUMORED BUT RZ CLIP AS HE SAID SPECIFIC FIGURES WEREN'T DISM USSED BY HAK. ... BRIEF CBS NOTE ON THE "NEW ERA OF RELATIONS" PORTENDED BY THE COMMISSION, ... HKS FOUND AIDNDFULLY IN ORDER AND BRINKLEY SAID THERE'LL BE LOTS OF ARGUING AND MORALIZING OVER IT -- BUT IT'LL BE PASSED BY HILL.

-- IN OTHER VN NEWS, ABC INTERVIEW W/THIEU WHO CONTINUES TO HAVE DOUBTS OVER WHAT US WILL DO IF SVN GETS IN A TOUGH MILITARY SITUATION....LENGTHY, GENERALLY DOWNBEAT CBS FILM ON RETURN OF GVN POWS. AND ABC TOOK A LOOK AT RETURN OF THE NVN POWS.

-- NBC/ABC W/FILM OF RN ON THE "STARK FACT" THAT US IS CONSUMING MORE ENERGY THAN IT PRODUCES AND HIS PLEDGE OF WIDE-RANGING INITIATIVES IN FORTHCOMING ENERGY MESSAGE....ALL NETS NOTED RN CALLED ON HILL TO ACT ON HIS ECOLOGY PROPOSALS (ABC/CBS NOTING THERE WERE 19 OF THEM) AND CRONKITE BRIEFLY CITED RN ASSERTION THAT WE'RE WELL ON WAY TO PEACE W/NATURE....NBC FOLLOWED RN W/REPORT ON CONTROVERSY OVER JUST HOW MUCH OF A FUEL CRISIS THERE REALLY IS.

-- ABC/CBS NOTED RN ORDERED VA TO W/DRAW THE PROPOSALS FOR CUTTING VN VET AMPUTEE BENEFITS.

-- DOLLAR HOLDING RELATIVELY STEADY W/FILM ON ALL NETS. BUT IT WENT A BIT LOWER THAN EXPECTED. YEN UP OVER 13 PERCENT. AND GOLD HIT ALL-TIME HIGH. NBC FOCUSED ON WORRIES OVER US TARIFFS IN HONG KONG AND JAPAN WHILE CBS HAD OVER 6 MINUTES OF DOWNBEAT FILM ON SEEMINGLY SERIOUS EFFECT OF DEVALUATION ON EXPATRIATES, SCHOLARS AND GIS WHO LIVE ABROAD....ALL NETS NOTED NEARLY 17 POINT DOW-JONES DROP -- LARGEST SINCE JUNE '71 -- TO 982. UNCERTAINTY OVER DEVALUATION AND CONTINUED INFLATION FEARS GIVEN AS REASONS....ALL NETS NOTED SOME IMPROVEMENT IN BALANCE OF PAYMENTS FOR 4TH Q BUT '72 WAS STILL 2ND WORST IN HISTORY.

-- US-CUBA REPORTEDLY TO SIGN ANTI-HIJACK ACCORD THURSDAY IN SEPARATE SIGNINGS IN DC AND HAVANA.

INDOCHINA

POWS/VETS

UPI LEADS: "AFTER YEARS OF WHISTLING 'CALIFORNIA HERE I COME' IN THE GLOOMY NIGHT OF COMMUNIST POW CAMPS, THEY CAME HOME THURSDAY

NIGHT -- 20 FREED POW'S WHO'D NOT SEEN THEIR FAMILIES FOR AS LONG AS 7 YEARS."

DENTON SAID, "FROM EVERYTHING WE'VE HEARD, WE FEEL THE ACCORD WAS THE PROPER VERSION." HE SAID THEY GOT WHAT WAS PROBABLY "A CURVED BALL VERSION OF THE OCT. AGREEMENT." ASKED HOW THE POWS WITHSTOOD THE IMPRISONMENT, HE SAID "99 PERCENT WOULD SAY IT WAS OUR FAITH IN GOD AND, SECONDLY, FAITH IN OUR COUNTRY...WE DEVELOPED A COMMUNION WITH GOD."

AS INTRO FILM, CBS AM SHOWED WH AT MIDNIGHT AS FLAG WAS RAISED TO FULL STAFF. ABC ALSO W/FILM OF FLAG AT FULL STAFF. AFTER RN TALK W/LADY BIRD, BOTH AGREED THEY WANTED POWS TO BE GREETED BY FLAGS "FLYING HIGH". NOTED SMITH....ABC SAID IF THE RECEPTION AT HOME WAS ANY LARGER THAN AT CLARK, IT COULDN'T BE ANY WARMER.

ALTHO THE HAWAII CROWD OF 1-3,000 CHEERED, THERE WAS LITTLE FANFARE. OFFICIALS SAID THE LACK OF IT WAS INTENTIONAL; "THE NAME OF THE GAME NOW IS THE WELFARE OF THESE MEN",..."FREEDOM AT LAST -- THAT'S WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT," SAID FREED POW GALANTI IN HONOLULU ON NBC WHERE REPORTER CALLED HIS WORDS "VERY POIGNANT". GALANTI THEN W/HIS BLESSING FOR RN....POW WIFE RISNER SAID RN TOLD HER AFTER POWS HAD BEEN REUNITED W/FAMILIES, HE PLANNED TO GET THEM ALL TOGETHER IN WASH. TO HONOR THEM. MRS. RISNER SAID RN WAS "HIGHLY APPRECIATIVE" OF HER HUSBAND'S CALL TO HIM.

AP LEADS ON REPORT ON ALL NETS: "W/THE WORDS OF "GOD BLESS AMERICA" SUNG BY NEARLY 400 SCHOOLCHILDREN RINGING IN THEIR EARS, 3 FREED POWS MADE THEIR 1ST PUBLIC APPEARANCE, AND THEIR TEARS FLOWED FREELY."...DENTON'S VOICE CHOKED AS HE TOLD THEM, "I HAVE 7 CHILDREN OF MY OWN JUST LIKE YOU." BRUSHING TEARS FROM HIS EYES, HE SAID HE HAD NOT SEEN THEM FOR NEARLY 8 YEARS, BUT HOPED TO THURS....SPEAKING ON CLARK DEPARTURE, DENTON SAID THE STAFF THERE HAD "SHOWN US YOUR FEELING IS AS DEEP AS OURS, AND THAT IS THE HIGHEST COMPLIMENT I CAN PAY." HE ALSO THANKED RN "AND EVERYONE ASSOCIATED W/THIS PROJECT FOR AN EXPERIENCE WE WILL NEVER FORGET."

CBS AM FILM NOTED WIFE WOODS WAS WEARING CORSAGE PRESENTED BY NIXON FAMILY. MRS. WOODS SAID SHE WANTS HER FRIENDS WHOSE HUSBANDS AREN'T RETURNING YET OR WHOSE FATE IS DUBIOUS TO KNOW THEY'RE NOT FORGOTTEN. ADMITTING THEY WERE OVERWHELMED BY HOME-COMING, WOODS SAID THEY WERE PROUD TO BE AMERICANS AND TO HAVE SERVED US AND THEIR G-I-C. SINCE WOODS OVERWHELMED BY HOME-COMING, HE'LL STAY IN HOSPITAL FOR A WHILE, SAID ABC....AFTER VISITING MOTHER, WOODS DESCRIBED HER AS SLIGHTLY IMPROVED, ADDING HE HAD GREAT HOPES SHE WILL MAKE IT. HE NOTED BIG EVENT IN HIS LIFE ALSO SEEMED TO BE ONE FOR MOST AMERICANS. HE SAID HE FELT ON TOP OF THE WORLD. WOODS SAID HE TOLD HIS MOTHER HER PRODIGAL CHILD HAD COME HOME AND THERE WAS NO REASON WHY SHE SHOULDN'T GET BETTER.... ABC W/FILM OF BRIEFING OFFICER SAYING WOODS HAS CONSUMED 77 CUPS

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OF COFFEE SINCE HE ARRIVED AT CLARK. HE ALSO WOLFED DOWN 2 BREAK-FASTS WED. AND MAY BE RELEASED FROM HOSPITAL BY SAT. RIGHT NOW HE'S GOING ON "SHEER EUPHORIA."

ALSO RETURNING EARLY DUE TO MOTHER'S ILLNESS. PERKINS ON ABC CALLING US GREATEST COUNTRY IN WORLD -- HIS GRATITUDE GOES OUT TO THE "GOOD OLE USA" AND THE AM. PEOPLE FOR THEIR "PRAYERS, FAITH AND DETERMINATION" WHICH MADE THE HOMECOMING POSSIBLE.

13 YEAR OLD JOHN WARD AT CLARK TOLD ON ABC HOW HE SAID PRAYERS EVERY NIGHT AND EVERY TIME HE WENT TO CHURCH FOR DAVIS' RETURN. FILM SHOWED JOHN W/HANDKERCHIEF GIVEN HIM BY DAVIS W/WRITING WHICH SAID "ALL OF MY THANKS TO JOHN WARD, MY FAVORITE AMERICAN -- LT. CMDR. EDWARD DAVIS." JOHN SAID HE'D GIVEN DAVIS THE BRACELET HE'D WORN, BUT DIDN'T WANT TO TALK W/THE RETURNEE ABOUT HIS TIME AS A POW. JOHN ALSO SAID HE HAD GIVEN DAVIS A VALENTINE HE'D MADE, A MATURE, INSPIRING YOUNG AMERICAN....AND UPI TELLS OF 16 YEAR OLD ELIZABETH POWERS WHO RUSHED UP THE POWS PLANE AND GAVE MAJ. JEFFREY HER POW BRACELET W/HIS NAME AND A LETTER. JEFFREY TAUGHT HER TO DIVE 10 YEARS AGO ALTHO HE DIDN'T REMEMBER HER, SHE SAID.

AP LEADS ON STORY W/FILM ON ALL NETS: "RELEASED POWS WANDERED THRU A U.S.-STYLE MARKET CATCHING UP ON US FASHION LIKE SO MANY RIP VAN WINKLES."...ABC JENNINGS NOTED MEN WANT TO TAKE PRESENTS HOME, BUT IT'S HARD TO BUY GIFTS SINCE THE PEOPLE MIGHT HAVE CHANGED AS WELL AS THEIR TASTES.

REASON FREED POW WALDHAUS DECIDED TO REMAIN IN SAIGON IS APPARENTLY VIET GIRL FRIEND....3 POWS RELEASED BY VC WERE LISTED AS AWOL AT THE TIME THEY WERE CAPTURED. FORMAL INVESTIGATION WILL BE LAUNCHED TO DETERMINE WHETHER THEY WERE ACTUALLY AWOL OR WHETHER RECORDS WERE IN ERROR.

CBS NOTED THE HANOI HILTON IS A SHABBY CITY JAIL REFERRED TO BY NVIETS AS "HELL HOLE". AN ICCS MEMBERS DESCRIBED CONDITIONS AS "PRETTY GRIM," BUT ADDED "THEY WERE NO WORSE THAN THE CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH MOST VIETS LIVE, EXCEPT FOR THE CONFINEMENT. UPI LEADS: "IN SHARP CONTRAST TO RETURNING KOREAN WAR POWS, THE PHYSICAL CONDITION, MORALE AND MILITARY BEARING OF THE POWS APPEARS TO BE SURPRISINGLY GOOD." THE KEY REASON PROBABLY WAS INTENSIVE TRAINING MOST PILOTS RECEIVED BEFORE GOING TO VN....ON LIVE COVERAGE ON ALL NETS FROM TRAVIS, CAPT. MULLIGAN TOLD OF THEIR HEAVY EXERCISE SCHEDULE WHILE POWS -- NOTHING ELSE TO DO, HE SAID.

THE FATHER OF FREED POW WANAT SAID HIS SON IS RETURNING AFTER 10 MONTHS AS A CAPTIVE W/A DEEP HATRED FOR HIS VC CAPTORS WHO REPEATEDLY ATTEMPTED TO BREAK HIM, LEAVING HIM CHAINED IN A CAGE W/ ANTS AND SNAKES FOR FIVE MONTHS. "I'D KILL THOSE BASTARDS IF I EVER SAW THEM AGAIN," WANAT QUOTED HIS SON. "HE WAS IN GOOD SPIRITS, LAUGHED A LOT AND SAID HE WAS PERFECTLY HEALTHY" ALTHO HE HAS SEVERE MALNUTRITION.

ASKED ABOUT CANCELLED TRIP HANOI, HOFFA ON CBS AM STATED HIS REP TALKED W/ HAK WHO MUST HAVE DISCUSSED MATTER W/PN, JUSTICE ARRANGED TRAVEL PERMISSION W/PAROLE BOARD, AND STATE ISSUED VISA. WHEN ROGERS CANCELLED TRIP, HE FEELS REASON IS HE WENT THRU HAK, NOT ROGERS, IN PLANNING TRIP, ADDING HE HAD WIRES FROM NVN UNIONS LEADING HIM TO BELIEVE HE COULD HAVE BROUGHT SOME POWS HOME.

ABC/NBC REPORTED US CHARGED VC W/VIOLATING THE ACCORD BY STALLING POW RELEASE 12 HOURS AND DECLARED IT WILL TOLERATE NO MORE DELAYS IN FUTURE RELEASES. ... THE US JMC DELEGATION WAS "STILL SEETHING" OVER MONDAY SNAPU, SAYS UPI.

NBC/CBS NOTED UNKNOWN PERSONS EXPLODED TEAR GAS OUTSIDE THE COMMUNIST COMPOUND AT TON SON NHUT AFTER A DAY OF WRANGLING W/IN JMC OVER POWS. VC MEMBERS WERE LEFT COUGHING, CHOKING, CRYING.

CBS NOTED THIEU WELCOMED HOME THEIR POWS W/ADMIRATION -- BUT NOT MUCH ELSE COMPARED TO WELCOME GIVEN AMERS. THEY GET \$2.00 AND LITTLE ELSE AS THEY'RE PUT IN A SECLUDED "CAMP" W/BARBED WIRE FOR MONTH OF REINDOCTRINATION AFTER WHICH THEY MAY WELL BE SENT BACK TO ARMY. NOTE OF VERY DIFFICULT CONDITIONS THEY LIVED UNDER AND THEN FILM AS RELATIVES CAME LOOKING FOR THEIR MEN. MUCH HAPPINESS -- BUT FOR THOSE WHO FAILED TO FIND THEIR RELATIVE, THE BITTERNESS WAS ALL THE GREATER.

ABC FILM ON LATE RELEASE OF 175 OF NVN POWS W/NOTE THAT IT IT WASN'T CLEAR WHY THEY WERE KEPT SO LONG. AT LEAST 100 WERE AMPUTEES OF SOME SORT, SHOWN LEAVING FOR THE 2 CHOPPERS TAKING THEM HOME. THERE APPEARED NO EAGERNESS TO BEGIN THE HOMeward TRIP. ABC'S BENNETT SAID IT WAS ONE MORE DREARY SIGHT IN THE TRAGIC WAR IN SVN, WHICH WAS A SIGHT PROBABLY TO BE REPEATED IN THE COMING WEEKS. ... CBS NOTED THE DEFIANT COMMUNISTS 1ST BALKED AT CROSSING RIVER UNDER SVN FLAGS ON BOAT -- BUT ONCE ACROSS, OUT CAME SLOGANS ON INDEPENDENCE, FREEDOM, VICTORY. ...

NVA SHELLED SVN AROUND QT W/IN MINUTES AFTER THE RELEASES.

POWS WILL BE ABLE TO BORROW A NEW FORD AT NO COST FOR A YEAR. ... 16 CORPORATIONS HAVE PLEDGED TO PUT STAFFS TO WORK FINDING JOBS FOR RETURNING POWS. EACH COMPANY WILL BE RESPONSIBLE AT 1 OR MORE OF THE 31 HOSPITALS AT WHICH RETURNEES WILL BE TREATED. ... VA. EMPLOYMENT COMM. IN LINE WITH LABOR DEPT'S OPERATION HOMECOMING, WILL GIVE "HIGHEST PRIORITY" TO PROVIDING JOBS, OF TRAINING, TO RETURNING POWS.

AP LEADS: "ON RN'S ORDERS, VA W/DREW A PROPOSAL THAT CRITICS SAID WOULD HAVE COST DISABLED VN VETS MILLIONS IN AID." AND A HIGH RANKING VA OFFICIAL WAS FIRED BECAUSE OF HIS ROLE IN OVERSEEING THE PROPOSED REVISION. "VA DIRECTOR JOHNSON WAS LOOKING FOR A SCAPEGOAT," SAID ONE SOURCE IN AP STORY. ... REP. HAMMERSCHMIDT SAID THAT ORDER WOULD HAVE CHANGED PLANS TO EXPLORE THE WISDOM

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BENEFITS W/OUT HIS APPROVAL. AND HE SUGGESTED THE CUTS WERE FAVORED BY ONE.... CBS NOTED VFW OFFICIAL SAID HE'S BEEN INFORMED THE PROPOSAL "HAD NEVER BEEN CLEARED BY WH." BUT HE SAID, "NO ONE CAN CONVINCE ME." (WH'S) ONE DIDNT HAVE A HAND IN IT.

UPI LEADS: "ON ORDERS FROM WH, VA W/DREW A PROPOSED MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR CUT IN DISABILITY COMP. FOR VN VETS THAT HAD DRAWN STRONG PROTESTS ON HILL AND IN VET GROUPS.

REP. DORN, CHRM. OF HOUSE VETS COMM, SAID HE WAS "VERY PLEASED". .. ANOTHER CRITIC, REP. GRASSO, D-CONN., ALSO THANKED RN, BUT SHE SAID HILL SHOULD PASS BILL TO MAKE SURE DISABILITY SCHEDULES AREN'T CHANGED W/ OUT CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL. ... SEN. ABUOUREZH SAID PROPOSAL WAS "THOUGHTLESS AND TRAGIC." AND EXPRESSED GRATITUDE RN HAD SECOND THOUGHTS, ESPECIALLY AT TIME WHEN WOUNDED POW'S WERE RETURNING.

HARTKE, CHRM. OF SEN. VETS COMM, WAS GLAD RN RECOGNIZED "DISABILITY CAN'T BE CURED BY DOING LESS FOR THE VET." BUT HE SAID ADMIN CUTS IN OTHER VN VET PROGRAMS, INDICATED AN "ENTIRE DISRESPECT" FOR RETURNING VETS. "IF WE DO NOT TREAT THEM AS 1ST CLASS CITIZENS I WON'T VOTE FOR ANY REHAB PROGRAM FOR NVN." HARTKE SAID. ... PRIOR TO WH MOVE, MCGER ON TODAY SAID THERE WAS A STORM BREWING" OVER PROPOSED VA CUTS, LEADING INTO INTERVIEW W/HARTKE WHO ASSERTED CUTS WOULD BE SUBSTANTIAL ENOUGH TO AFFECT DISABLED VETS FOR REST OF OUR LIVES. HARTKE VIRTUALLY PUSHED ASIDE MONROE'S REMARKS THAT VA STUDY SHOWS AMPUTEES HAVE BEEN OVER-COMPENSATED. HARTKE DID ADMIT THERE WAS "POSSIBILITY OF OVER-COMPENSATION, BUT FROM WHAT HE'S SEEN, VETS ARE UNDER-COMPENSATED. HE SAID HE DOESN'T KNOW OF 1 VOTE AGAINST PROPOSAL TO HALT THE CUTS, ADDING VOTE WOULD BE SO "OVERWHELMING" RN OUGHT TO TAKE NOTICE. IN FACT, HE SAID, HE'S NOT TOO SURE BUREAUCRATS HAVEN'T PULLED A "FAST ONE" ON RN, BECAUSE IF RN REALLY UNDERSTOOD IT AND TOOK TIME FROM TRADER VIC'S TO VISIT VA HOSPITAL OR POWS, WE WOULD REJECT THE PROPOSED CUTS "OUT OF HAND." HARTKE FEELS RN WOULD SAY "AS FAR AS WE WE'RE CONCERNED, WE'VE ASKED A LOT OF THESE MEN AND WE'RE NOT GOING TO SHORT CHANGE THEM."

NATL. ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN PRES. HEIDE SAYS WOMEN ARE JUST AS ENTITLED TO VETS FOR SPECIAL BENEFITS AND ANY PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT GIVEN VETS SHOULD BE CHALLENGED. "VETS ARE NO MORE DISADVANTAGED THAN WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCE CHILD BIRTH, MINORITY GROUPS, OR VICTIMS OF RAPE OR OTHER CRIMES. FIGHTING A WAR IS NOT THE ONLY WAY TO BE IN DANGER OR SERVE YOUR COUNTRY," SHE SAID.

AID HKS SAID COMM. SET UP FOR REBUILDING OF "SHATTERED" NVN WAS THE MAJOR TOPIC OF HAK'S 4 DAY TALKS W/HANOI. JARRIEL REPORTED, ON THE COMMUNIQUE ISSUED DEALING W/RECONSTRUCTION OF WAR DAMAGE INFLECTED BY US. AFTER RE CLIP, JARRIEL SAID AID TO NORTH NOT POPULAR ON HILL. BUT ADMIN FEELS THAT ONCE COMMUNISTS TAKE US MONETARY ASSISTANCE THEY'LL BE DISINCLINED TO BREAK THE AGREEMENT NOTED ABC WHICH ADDED THAT HAK ALSO TALKED W/NVN OF CONTINUED VIOLATIONS AND EACH PARTY PLEDGED ANEW TO LIVE UP TO THE TERMS.

VALERIANI SAID THE EXISTENCE OF JT. COMMISSION MEANS THE 2

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COUNTRIES SHOULD BE FAIRLY CLOSE W/HOPE THAT RELATIONS WILL HELP HOLD CEASEFIRE. US HOPES ALSO THAT ITS DOLLARS WILL "LUPE" NVN TO BETTER RELATIONS.... LESS THAN 2 MONTHS AGO, SAID CRONKITE, MASSIVE US BOMBING CAUSED LOSS OF BILLIONS TO NVN. NOW US PLANS TO HELP REBUILD NVN AS WELL AS ALL INDOCHINA & OTHER COUNTRIES ALSO HELPING.

AP SAYS LANGUAGE DISPLAYED IN COMMUNIQUE A NEW CORDIALITY BETWEEN THE 2 NATIONS... RZ COULDN'T SAY WHETHER A MC MIGHT BE PLACED ON THE COMMISSION, BUT PROMISED HAK WOULD HOLD A FORMAL NEWS CONFERENCE TO DISCUSS THE SUBJECT WHEN HE RETURNS... NBC/CBS NOTED COMMUNIQUE ALSO INCLUDES PROCEDURES FOR ACCOUNTING AND TRACING OF MIAS.

1ST. SAID CHANCELLOR, HILL MUST APPROVE OF AID TO NVN. BRINKLEY SAID WASH. ESTABLISHMENT ISN'T ALL THAT GOOD DEALING W/MORAL DILEMMAS- THEY'RE LEFT TO COURTS AND OTHERS WHO DON'T HAVE CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS, ETC TO WORRY ABOUT. BRINKLEY FINDS R'S ARGUMENT THAT NVN AID WOULD BE A INVESTMENT IN PEACE THE "PRACTICAL" ONE. BUT MORALLY, SOME MCS AND PUBLIC ASK: WHY AID COMMUNISTS WHO WERE KILLING GIs JUST 30 DAYS AGO? AND WHY SHOULD SUCH AID COME FROM DOMESTIC PROGRAMS WHEN DOD SPENDING IS GOING UP AT TIME A WAR IS OVER? BUT, SAID BRINKLEY, RN HAS STRONG CARDS TO PLAY AND THE AID WILL PROBABLY PASS.

HKS SAID THERE'S A STRANGE NOTION THAT IT'S ILLOGICAL FOR US TO GIVE RECONSTRUCTION AID TO HANOI TO REBUILD WHAT A FEW WEEKS AGO WE WERE DESTROYING. BUT, THAT NOTION IS BASED ON THE WRONG IDEA OF WHAT WAR IS ABOUT. THE AID IS, NOT TO GRIND THE ENEMY'S FACE IN THE DIRT, WHICH WE DID AFTER WWI. THE SENSIBLE AID IS TO CHANGE AN ENEMY'S DRIVE FROM AGGRESSION TO CONCILIATION. THIS WE DID AFTER WWII BY LAVISHLY HELPING GERMANY AND JAPAN, CONVERTING THEM TO WORKING DEMOCRACIES TO CONSTRUCTIVE PURPOSES. SMITH CONTINUED, SAYING HANOI'S DRIVING MOTIVATION WAS NOT NATIONALISTIC BUT IS AS MAO SAID YRS AGO, TO UNRAVEL AS MUCH OF SE ASIA AND SPREAD THE GOLDEN DREAM OF COMMUNISM. HKS FEELS THERE ARE FAIRLY GOOD SIGNS THAT THE GOLD IS TARNISHED, BUT THE COMMUNISTS WANT TO GET ALONG ON A NEW BASIS. THUS, AID, FAR FROM BEING ILLOGICAL, IS THE BEST WAY TO ENCOURAGE THEM.

OTHER INDOCHINA

FIGHTING STEPPED UP THRUOUT SVN. DOD RECORDS SHOW THE 2 WEEKS SINCE C-F HAVE BEEN BLOODIER FOR ARVN THAN MOST WEEKS BEFORE. 1,000 ARVN KIA SINCE C-F.

GVN-VC HELD 4TH MEETING TO WORK OUT PROCEDURAL DETAILS FOR POLITICAL NEGOTIATIONS, BUT EACH SAID THE OTHER WAS PLACING OBSTACLES IN THE WAY OF AN AGREEMENT. HOWEVER VC REPORTEDLY OFFERED NEW PROPOSALS AIMED AT BREAKING THE DEADLOCK.

VC'S JMC DELEGATE TRA ACCUSED GVN OF LAUNCHING A "LAND GRABBING OPERATIONS"... W/SULLIVAN'S INTERVENTION, JMC AGREED TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT TRYING TO STOP THE SHOOTING... NBC NOTED JMC WILL TRY

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HARDER TO STOP THE FIGHTING... ABC'S KOPPEL W/ SILENT FILM FROM HIS INTERVIEW W/THIEU. SMITH RECALLED THIEU'S OPEN SKEPTICISM OF COMMUNIST SINCERITY DURING THE NEGOTIATIONS. THIEU TOLD KOPPEL THAT HE FELT THE COMMUNISTS HAVE 2 OPTIONS: 1) LONG-RANGE PLAN OF 5-6 YRS, WHERE THEY COULD BUILD A POLITICAL BASE AND GAIN A LARGER MANDATE. 2) MILITARY PATH WHICH WOULD BE SOON, IN COMING MONTHS. THIEU FELT THE LATTER WOULD BE MOST LIKELY SINCE THEY COULD TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE NVA AND WEAPONS BIV NOW IN PLACE. THIEU SAID RN HAD PROMISED HELP IF RESUMPTION OF HOSTILITIES BEGAN. KOPPEL ASKED IF THIEU HAD FAITH IN RN'S PROMISE. THIEU REPORTEDLY SHRUGGING, BUT SAYING RN HAS SHOWN HE IS WILLING TO ACT. HOWEVER, THIEU WONDERS WHAT AMERICAN'S WOULD CONSIDER A VIOLATION -- CONTINUED INFILTRATION, USE OF TANKS OR WHAT?

GEORGETOWN POLI SCI PROF HOWARD PENNIMAN, AN OFFICIAL OBSERVER OF 2 PAST GVN ELECTIONS, SAYS THE ONE REQUIRED BY THE AGREEMENT MAY ASK VC AND THIEU "TO SOLVE THE UNSOLVABLE." IN AN AET STUDY, HE SAID W/A MAXIMUM 20 PER CENT OF THE POPULAR VOTE, THE VC HAVE NO HOPE OF WINNING DEMOCRATIC ELECTIONS, BUT CAN VE--TO THEM.

FOLLOWING A DISCUSSION W/POPE ABOUT PEACE AND CHURCH PROBLEMS, THE VATICAN SAID THUY EXPRESSED NVN'S APPRECIATION FOR THE POPE'S CONTRIBUTION IN ENDING THE WAR.

US BOMBED AND STRAFED COMMUNIST LINES AROUND THE THREATENED MEKONG BASE OF NEAK LUONG IN CAMBODIA WHERE SITUATION IS CALLED CRITICAL....NBC NOTED CONTINUED US RAIDS.

RLG SOURCES INSISTED A CEASEFIRE COULD BE WORKED OUT W/IN THE WEEK, BUT DIPLOMATS INDICATED TALKS WERE STILL MIRED IN HAGGLING THAT MADE AGREEMENT AS FAR AWAY AS EVER. BUT RE SAID US EXPECTS A CEASEFIRE "IN A MATTER OF A FEW DAYS."

OTHER FOREIGN AFFAIRS

FACT THAT RN IS PLEASED AND SURPRISED W/SPEED OF US-PRC OPENING OF RELATIONS EXPLAINS HAK TRIP, SAID CBS WHICH NOTED PRC ALSO WANTS MORE FOOD FROM WEST. WILL BUY \$75M OF COTTON AND IS CONSIDERING SOME WESTERN PLANES AS WELL...UPI NOTES DIPLOMATIC REPORTS SAY "HARDENING USSR-PRC CONFLICT IS SPEEDING PRC MOVEMENT TOWARD WEST BEYOND EXPECTATIONS." HAK TRIP COINCIDES W/23RD ANNIVERSARY OF VIRTUALLY DEFUNCT USSR-PRC DEFENSE AND FRIENDSHIP TREATY...BRITAIN'S DEFENSE MIN. COULDN'T RULE OUT PRC'S POSSIBLY BUYING A FIGHTER PLANE, ALTHO THERE ARE "ALL SORTS OF PROBLEMS," MAINLY THE EXPORT CONTROL COMM. OF KOREAN WAR ALLIES.

CBS NOTED "RN'S DECISION TO DEVALUE THE DOLLAR GAVE USSR A \$100M WINDFALL..WALTER DIDN'T NOTE THAT MOSCOW-BASED WESTERN TRADING ORG. FORECAST DEVALUATION WOULD STIMULATE US-USSR TRADE

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BECAUSE IT MAKE US GOODS THAT MUCH MORE COMPETITIVE...SENATE AGRICULTURE WILL OPEN HEARINGS IN EARLY MARCH TO DETERMINE IF US OFFICIALS LET RUSSIA MAKE THE PURCHASES OF WHEAT TOO CHEAPLY.

FORTUNE'S MEYER ASSERTS USSR'S "SUDDENLY INCREASED APPETITE" FOR US GOODS AND TECHNOLOGY CONVEYS A "MESSAGE OF FAILURE, WEAKNESS AND TIGHTENING ECONOMIC BIND W/PURCHASES AMOUNTING TO "FORM OF ECONOMIC MEDICATION" FOR SOVIETS. WHILE USSR'S ECONOMIC GROWTH ONCE CAME FROM BIG LABOR FORCE INCREASES, "POOLS OF EXTRA RECRUITS" HAVE DRIED UP AND USSR IS EVEN IMPORTING LABOR NOW. INABILITY TO SUSTAIN A ROBUST PRODUCTIVITY INCREASE RATE HAS BEEN THE 1 MOST NOTABLE FAILURE OF USSR ECONOMY. HARVARD'S BERGSON AS SAYS "STALIN WAS SO SUCCESSFUL IN EXTRACTING SURPLUSES FROM SOVIET ECONOMY THERE IS VERY LITTLE MORE LEFT TO SQUEEZE OUT TO ASSURE A CAPITAL STOCK GROWTH RATE OF 9 PER CENT A YEAR, " AND THE NEW PLAN CALLS FOR A 6-7 PERCENT ANNUAL INCREASE--A "SIGNIFICANT PULLBACK."

FORTUNE'S MEYER SAYS SOVIETS COULD ACCEPT A DECLINE IN THE LEVEL OF CONSUMPTION (IT WOULDN'T BE THE 1ST TIME), BUT NOW THAT USSR HAS FINALLY ATTAINED MILITARY PARITY W/US, "THE PRONOUNCEMENTS ABOUT A HIGHER PRIORITY FOR THE CONSUMER PROBABLY STEM IN PART FROM A GENUINE DESIRE TO GIVE THE PEOPLE A BETTER BREAK." MOREOVER, THE '70 POLISH RIOTS "APPARENTLY FRIGHTENED" SOME IN KREMLIN. MEYER SEES LITTLE EVIDENCE THE SOVIETS ARE PREPARED TO EMBARK ON SIGNIFICANT REFORMS TO INCREASE PRODUCTIVITY, NOTING FLURRY OF SUCH PROGRAMS IN MID-60'S WERE OVERRATED IN WEST AND DIDN'T SUCCEED AT HOME. INSTEAD, WHILE PLANNING LESS, SOVIETS WILL TRY TO PLAN BETTER, W/COMPUTERS PLAYING MAJOR ROLE. BUT PROBLEMS RISE THERE AS TRAINED PEOPLE (WHO MIGHT BE INCLINED TO SYMPATHIZE W/INTELLIGENTSIA) WOULD RUN COMPUTERS AND COPIERS COULD BE EASILY SUBVERTED, PERHAPS TO RUN OFF COPIES OF "SOLZHENITSYN'S LATEST HERESY."

BUT, SAYS FORTUNE, ANOTHER WAY TO LIFT PRODUCTIVITY IS TO FORCE RAPID INDUSTRIAL AND AGRICULTURAL TECHNOLOGICAL IMPROVEMENTS AND SOME IN US FEEL THAT'S WHAT SPARKED INTEREST IN US TRADE. NOTE MADE THAT USSR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIVITY IS ONLY 11 PERCENT OF THAT IN US. CONCLUDING THAT IF INEFFICIENCIES CAN'T BE OVERCOME, USSR MIGHT BE FORCED INTO "MASSIVE INJECTIONS OF CAPITAL STOCK." MEYER SAYS LEADERS WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY CHOOSE REDUCED CONSUMPTION OVER DEFENSE CUTS TO REVERT TO SUCH A COURSE, BUT "SO VISIBLE AN ADMISSION OF FAILURE WOULD ENTAIL HEAVY COSTS--IN BOTH IMPAIRED PRESTIGE ABROAD AND DEEPENED DISCONTENT AT HOME."

HAK IS EXTENDING HIS ASIAN TOUR AND WILL CONFER W/TANAKA IN TOKYO...UPI SAYS HAK'S PRC TRIP MAY SPEED RELEASE OF 3 POWS THERE AND LEAD TO US-PRC EXCHANGE OF JOURNALISTS.

NBC NOTED CANADA AND CUBA HAVE REACHED TENTATIVE HIJACKING

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AGREEMENT..RN SAID US-CUBAN AGREEMENT IS "SIMPLY AN UNDERSTANDING ON HIJACKING" NOT NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS..AMERICAN SECURITY COUNCIL'S REPORT SEES HIJACKING ENTENTE AS "LEVER" TO DIPLOMATIC RECOGNITION OF CUBA. REPORT NOTES RN 2 JAN 71 REMARKS ON CUBAN "BELLIGERENCE" AND "EXPORTING REVOLUTION" AND THAT US POLICY "ISN'T GOING TO CHANGE" TIL CASTRO RELENTS. THE CONSERVATIVE AMER. SECURITY COUNCIL ASSERTS CASTRO IS STILL NOT MEETING RN CRITERIA AND NOW WANTS END OF US SANCTIONS. RETURN OF SOME REFUGEES, AND FORFEIT OF GITMO AS PRICE FOR ANTI-HIJACKING AGREEMENT. CONCLUSION: "AFTER STACKING THE DECK, (CASTRO) ALSO WANTS TO DEAL THE CARDS." (NB: SPECULATION WED NITE ON ACCORD DOES NOT FIND IT INCLUDING SUCH PROVISIONS.)

ALTHO MIDEAST SHIES AWAY FROM EXPRESSION "IMPOSED SOLUTION", HUSSEIN SAID THAT "WE NEED ADVICE AND HELP IN FINDING A SOLUTION AND THE US HAS TREMENDOUS INFLUENCE IN THIS AREA WHICH IT CAN EXERT."....POLICE CLASHED W/CAIRO UNIV. STUDENTS FOR 4TH STRAIGHT DAY.

NBC NOTE/CBS CONCLUDED W/FILM ON A BRITISH SOLDIER WHO WAS SHOT DEAD IN THE BACK BY A SNIPER. CBS HAD RECENTLY INTERVIEWED THE FELLOW AND REPORTER NOTED THERE'VE NEVER BEEN SUCH A NUMBER OF ATTACKS ON THE BRITISH.

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~~CAN WE THEN.~~

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